MIDDLEBURY VT.
FEB
23

18¾

Mr Amos A. Phelps

South Berwick
Maine

E. B. Hill
Middlebury

she would call it after me— I thank her for giving it the nam
Mr. Sam'l Cowles died while father was there— he left sister
Sophia with Marion. You mention that you are engaged in th
honourable occupation of pedagogue"— It is indeed a responsible
station— Last summer I was engaged in a school— it was a
pleasant occupation to me— This winter I am at home &
the kitchen is my school & study, the various kinds of house-work
my library— We can live without mental improvement— but
it is impossible to live without bodily— Both are desirable.—
You speak of a revival in Boston; that is indeed cheering in-
telligence— may it not stop till every soul is gathered into
the "fold of Christ," till mountains & vallies are made vocal
with the praises of our Redeemer:— Alas! how different
it is here— a ~~year ago~~ little more than a year souls in
this place were pressing forward into the kingdom of heaven
the meetings were crowded to overflowing, the Lord was
calling many of his most faithful to him-self— this winter
little else is to be heard besides parties, rides & other pleasures
of this world, not that I would insinuate that all have for-
gotten their God, but that the scene is very much reversed.
We read "there is a time for all things."—— I have no objectio
to entering into a correspondence with you, as friend with frien
perhaps it will not be best to write very often— I would wish
our Farmington friends not to know of it.

P.S. Please tell me who that student is.

Affectionately yours,
E. M. Gillet

P.S. Please fold your letter differently for in breaking the seal I lost some words.

adverse will, eventually be for my good. I say go perfidious wretch as unworthy as I am, you are not worthy of me. Believe me self-love & pride are of considerable use in such a case. I suppose this last reason & what I have said respecting it is, what you alluded to when you say "have you not some sorrows to unbosom to a friend; as I heard you informed our &c. friends of the, on the whole not unfortunate catastrophe.

You speak of the many advantages resulting from an epistolary correspondence. I know they are many & now do ~~I~~ often regret that I have been so negligent & declined entering into a correspondence. I knew I could not write well & was ashamed to write at all therefore I have paid little regard to the maxim that "practice make perfect." It is impossible for a person, who has such an aversion to writing as I have, to write well— If any advantages arise from a correspondence with me it will be on your part in writing & mine in receiving your letters.

Wednesday Feb. 21st This is the fifth time I have attempted to answer your letter—but have been interrupted by company or in some other way— Again I attempt; hoping for your sake I shall be able to succeed for looking at the date of yours I find it just a month & nothing is more intolerable than to be kept in suspense— Father has been to Farmington this winter— he returned two weeks since— left our friends all well— Aunt Olive calls her little daughter Elizabeth. It appears you & I ~~were~~ although at a distance were of a mind for as soon as I heard she had one, I wrote her, wishing

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Middlebury Feb. 14th 1827

Dear Friend,

Your kind letter of Jan. 20th came safe to hand — the reception of which was unexpected but well received. I have not heard directly from you since I received your first communication. — Absence & non-communications have not obliterated your memory in the least; my "minds eye" (as Shakespeare calls it) has all a long accompanied you through your collegiate course & had already enrolled your name among the many who have gone forth, well prepared from that respectable Seminary of which you are a member, to preach the glad tidings of Jesus & him crucified. Often did I think of my promise to you at our parting that I would visit Ct. in three years — the fulfilment of which was next to impossible — I read the newspaper accounts of the commencement of Y. College with increased pleasure; when I recollected you were a member of that class which had thus distinguished themselves in 1826. Enough has been said to convince you, I presume that my friendship & respect for you, is the same as ever. The reason I declined corresponding with you when I left Y. was a simple one & needs no explanation. When I recd your letter I had a particular reason & at that time a good one for declining — I was engaged (as I suppose you afterwards learned) to a, (as I then thought & in the opinion of others), worthy young man, ~~but~~ who has since proved himself to be a base & perfidious villain. At first it cost me some sorrowful hours but now I rejoice at it; & think all things whether prosperous or